

## Lead Environmental Educator – Peterson Bay Field Station (Summer 2015)

As a **Lead Environmental Educator** during the **Summer Season**, help youth from throughout Alaska and the country connect with the ecosystems of Kachemak Bay, become better stewards, and develop a love for the natural world. The Lead Educator will work primarily with People to People groups during June and July and then with CACS camps during late July and August. The People to People groups include approximately 40 youth participants from throughout the country (ages 10-12) plus adult chaperones. These are 1-night programs with a focus on discovering and taking care of the natural world. CACS camps target a more local audience (ages 9-18, depending on camp) and have a more specific topic from marine mammals to environmental change. The lead educator will work closely with other staff to plan for and lead these 5-10 day overnight camps.



Duties include instruction, leading beach and forest hikes, assisting with training and coaching of interns, coordination of transportation and food, and performing routine maintenance at the Field Station facility. Camps and overnight programs provide ample opportunities for creativity and flexibility. Field sites feature rocky intertidal areas of outstanding diversity, a coastal forest trail system, and salt and freshwater wetlands. Position requires knowledge of basic intertidal, marine, and forest ecology; experience instructing and organizing school groups or children, good physical condition, and ability to live and work in a residential setting with school groups and other staff. Alaska or similar experience and experience with stocking and maintaining salt water aquaria preferred.

### Responsibilities:

- Act as lead educator for 2-day coastal ecology programs for youth groups at the Peterson Bay Field Station
- Meet with participants before their trip to help them prepare for the experience
- Coordinate boat transportation, laundry, and food
- Lead coastal ecology environmental education activities such as tide pooling, forest ecology hikes, microscope labs, and water quality monitoring
- Model positive interactions with the natural world, practice good environmental stewardship, and lead marine stewardship activities
- Facilitate evening activities such as campfires, games, and beach walks
- Develop and ensure a safe, fun, and positive learning environment for students
- Work cooperatively with group leaders, chaperones, and other CACS staff and volunteers to provide the best possible experience for participants
- Orient groups and set behavior guidelines for the group and maintain discipline as necessary
- Administer basic first aid and comfort homesick or otherwise upset students
- Work closely with other CACS staff to plan and lead camps for youth and families, including development and implementation of programming, arrangement of guest speakers, confirmation of transportation, meal planning and preparation, chaperoning of participants, organization and preparation of supplies, and submitting written feedback
- Assist in the training and mentoring of CACS interns
- Perform routine facility and trail maintenance at the Peterson Bay Field Station, including trail clearing, troubleshooting water system problems, and maintenance of the composting toilets
- Maintain the health and upkeep of intertidal organisms in saltwater aquaria and touch tanks
- Perform administrative tasks, including education program data entry and correspondence with parents, chaperones, and participants

One position available running from May 25 – August 30, 2015. \$1,600-1,800/month DOE + housing. This position may also be combined with a spring position as an Environmental Educator for 5 months of employment.